Allocation to Madhya Pradesh for Developmental work in the 8th Five Year Plan

*273. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the actual allocation made in the Eighth Five Year Plan for Developmental projects in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) what is the actual demand of the Madhya Pradesh Government;

(c) what are the names of major projects for which the allocation has been made in the Eighth Five Year Plan and what are the names of other projects which have been left out; and

(d) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) Government of Madhya Pradesh has proposed an outlay of Rs. 15,000 crores for the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992—97). The Eighth Five Year Plans of the States including Madhya Pradesh are in the process of finalisation.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Modernisation and Design Upgradation of Handloom Industry

*274. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for modernisation and design upgradation of the handloom industry;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) by when the proposal would be announced by Government; and

(d) what is the extent to which it will help the handloom industry at large?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India is implementing a scheme of modernisation of handlooms to upgrade technology of the handloom weavers and to equip them with modern accessories to improve their productivity and to reduce the fatigue involved. Under the scheme in operation so far, a sum of Rs. 13.25 crores has been spent in the past in Sixth & Seventh Plans. The scheme has now been revised upwards and assistance available for accessories and handlooms is Rs. 8,000/- for Jacquard loom; Rs. 4,000/- for ordinary loom and Rs. 2,000/- for accessories. The scheme envisages a loan and grant component and is shared equally by the Centre and the State Governments.

For design development in the handloom sector a scheme known as National Design Collection Scheme is in operation in which assistance is provided to a maximum of Rs. 1.50 lakhs per project for introduction of new designs in traditional products and for organising exhibitions and sales thereof. In addition, regular design input is provided by 23 Weavers' Service Centres being run by the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India in areas of Weavers concentration.

(c) Scheme is already under implementation.

(d) The impact of these schemes can be appraised by the increase in production of handloom cloth from 4155 million metres at the end of Seventh Plan to 4541 million metres in 1990-91.

Secretary level Meeting with Pakistan

*275. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have suggested the Government of Pakistan to have some common issues settled and sorted out at the level of Foreign Secretaries of both Governments;

(b) whether any response has been received from Pak side; and

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS